

MISSISSIPPI WIRELESS COMMUNICATION COMMISSION

December 6, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Place: MDOT 1st floor auditorium

Commission Members Present:

MS Department of Public Safety
MS Department of Corrections
MS Department of Environmental Quality
MS Department of Homeland Security
MS Supervisors Association
MS Department of Health
MS National Guard
MS Emergency Management Agency
MS Municipal League
MS Department of Transportation

George Phillips
Chris Epps
Keith Harkins
Jay Ledbetter
Joel Yelverton
Michael Scales
Gary Ladd
Tom McAllister
Quincy Mukoro
Willie Huff

Advisory Members Present:

Senator Jack Gordon
Senator Tom King

Representative Clayton Smith
Representative Johnny Stringer
Representative Tyrone Ellis

Chairman George Phillips called the meeting to order at 1:40 pm. Chris Epps made a motion to approve the minutes. Tom McAllister seconded the motion, and it passed with none opposed.

Joel Yelverton reported for the Rules Committee. The University Medical Center made a request for mobile radio equipment, which will be interoperable with the State system. The total amount of the request was \$548,640. Mr. Yelverton made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. McAllister and passed with none opposed.

MS Department of Transportation (MDOT) made a request to install an antenna tower at the Lyman Project Office as infrastructure for MDOT's Gulf Regional Traffic Management Center. The tower will not impact the MSWIN system. Mr. Yelverton made a motion to approve the request for an amount not to exceed \$290,000. It was seconded by Jay Ledbetter and passed with none opposed.

The Department of Human Services (DHS) made a request to continue their current contract with Verizon until June 30, 2008, or until services are available from Cellular South. There was a discussion of the services required by DHS and when they might be available with Cellular South. Dustin Walker of Cellular South explained that they are committed to providing this service, and there will be no costs incurred from migrating to Cellular South. The phone will be provided free. Mr. Yelverton made a motion to allow DHS to remain with Verizon until June 30th or until Cellular South offers the service needed, for a total not-to-exceed expenditure of \$323,660. Once Cellular South notifies MDHS that such comparable location-based services are available,

MDHS should review and pilot this functionality and return to the WCC with a transition plan, including documentation of any remaining issues or concerns. MDHS will begin immediate conversion to the statewide cellular master for the 83 voice plans in areas outside the February 2008 Verizon coverage commitment and immediate conversion of all data cards in areas in which high speed data services are available from Cellular South. Chris Epps seconded the motion, and it passed with none opposed.

Willie Huff had no report for the Interoperability Committee.

Gary Ladd reported for the Governance Committee. They will be meeting with focus groups from other states to learn about management practices. Chris Epps questioned how the Personnel Board was working on the management position for the WCC. Bill Buffington stated that they are working to have the WCC declared an agency so it can have an executive director. There was a discussion with the advisory members as to whether or not it can be an agency.

Bill Buffington gave a report on the projects. They fielded the equipment used on the MSWIN during the Bay Bridge opening, and it worked well. Lease options have been completed for 60% of Phase I. All the microwave sites will be completed by January 1st. He met with Motorola, and they have agreed to a one year acceleration. They will start with District 8, which will be online by June 1, 2008. Mr. Buffington and Mr. Huff have gone to several events and meetings to give presentations on the WCC to give information to the local agencies. Mr. Buffington stated that they are working with Homeland Security on the Public Safety Interoperability Communications (PSIC) grant, which will be used to get local agencies on the system. Site construction will begin after the first of the year.

The expenditures for the month of November were \$249,781.50. Mr. Buffington explained that these costs were for site and structure equipment for the FEMA cost share for the nine-site system. Mr. Huff made a motion to approve payment of the expenses. Mr. Yelverton seconded the motion, and it passed with none opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.